PUBLIC WORKS.

(Nos. 290 to 292.)

SUBJECT No. 290.

Construction of silt-dams to prevent silt coming into major tanks.

Messrs. M. Venkataramaiya, C. Venkataramaiya and D. Chowdaiya, Channarayapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In order to prevent major tanks being silted up, silt-dams used to be thrown up across feeders. Now no effort is made to maintain such anikats. Consequently tanks get silted up, in spite of earthwork being done to the bund by the ryots. It is therefore prayed that the old practice may be revived.

Reply of Government.—The Public Works Department are not in favor of such silt dams. They are not usually found across the feeders to major tanks and in the case of serial tanks, such dams if constructed will diminish the available atchkat as they have to be made sufficiently deep to catch the silt for a series of years. They have also to be provided with proper surplus works so that they may not breach and endanger the safety of the main tanks which they are intended to preserve. These surplus works are also likely to be costly.

SUBJECT No. 291.

Supply pipes to sluice channels of big tanks.

Messrs. M. Venkataramaiya, C. Venkataramaiya, and D. Chowdaiya, Channarayapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—A large area of lands has to be irrigated from channels drawn from big tanks. At present there is nothing to prevent a large waste of water of such channels by the ryots of lands just below them. Consequently crops on lands farther off wither for want of timely supply of water. It is therefore prayed that as in the case of river channels, sluices may be constructed at the cost of the ryots, necessary quantity of water being supplied therefrom.

Mr. Ramanuja Iyengar.—It is only those who are close to the sluice that do not want supply pipes for they cannot then do what they like with the water. They also refuse to pay a cess.

Mr. Ghouse Peer.—Such supply pipes were applied for in the case of the Bannur tank and they were not given. A cess may be levied and the cost of constructing such supply pipes and of maintaining an establishment to look after the channels and the pipes may be met from it.

Reply of Government.—This can be done when the initial cost can be borne by the landholders. In some cases such sluices have already been provided, and there the complaint is that they have been neglected and cannot be properly maintained without a special agency. If the landholders are willing to pay a cess to meet the cost, they should apply to the Deputy Commissioner with a mahazar.